

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A remote DC plant monitoring system, comprising:
2 graphical user interface logic operable to provide a user with a
3 plurality of periodically updated data points associated with a DC plant; and
4 connection logic coupled to the graphical user interface logic, operable
5 to connect to a monitoring server and receive the plurality of periodically updated
6 data points associated with the DC plant, the monitoring server being coupled to a
7 plurality of DC plants via a network.

- 1 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a data gathering unit operable to gather a voltage and a current reading
3 from any of at least one rectifier associated with the DC plant.

- 1 3. The system of claim 2, wherein the server is operable to query the data
2 gathering unit, and provide the connection logic with the voltage and the current
3 reading.

- 1 4. The system of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface is further
2 operable to provide a user with a plurality of periodically updated data points
3 associated with an AC plant.

1 5. The system of claim 4, further comprising:
2 testing logic operable to receive feedback from the user and simulate a
3 commercial power failure at a site associated with the AC and DC plants.

1 6. The system of claim 5, further comprising:
2 a house service panel coupled to a commercial power source, the AC
3 plant, and the DC plant, the house service panel being operable to sense a commercial
4 power failure, turn on the AC plant, and power at least one rectifier associated with
5 the DC plant using the AC plant.

1 7. The system of claim 1, wherein the graphical user interface is further
2 operable to provide a user with a plurality of periodically updated data points
3 associated with a fuel monitor coupled to an AC plant.

1 8. The system of claim 1, further comprising:
2 storage logic operable to store a plurality of acceptable data points
3 associated with the plurality of DC plants, and report the acceptable data points to the
4 user via the graphical user interface; and
5 alarm logic operable to notify a user via the graphical user interface
6 logic responsive to the plurality of periodically updated data points associated with
7 any of the plurality of DC plants being outside the plurality of acceptable data points.

1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the alarm logic is operable to signal a
2 minor alarm responsive to a portion of the periodically updated information being
3 outside initial acceptable data points, and operable to signal a major alarm responsive

- 4 to a portion of the periodically updated information being outside final acceptable
- 5 data points.

1 10. A remote DC plant monitoring system, comprising:
2 monitoring logic operable monitor at least one DC plant and receive a
3 plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant;
4 storage logic operable to store at least one boundary parameter
5 associated with said at least one DC plant; and
6 communication logic operable to receive the plurality of data signals
7 and said at least one boundary parameter and provide the plurality of data signals and
8 said at least one boundary parameter to a remote computer.

1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the monitoring logic is further
2 operable to monitor at least one fuel monitor associated with an AC plant, and receive
3 a plurality of data signals associated with said at least one fuel monitor.

1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the storage logic is further operable to
2 store at least one boundary parameter associated with said at least one fuel monitor.

1 13. The system of claim 12, further comprising:
2 alarm logic operable to notify at least one remote computer associated
3 with the system responsive to any of the plurality of data signals associated with said
4 at least one fuel monitor being outside said at least one boundary parameter associated
5 with said at least one fuel monitor.

1 14. The system of claim 10, further comprising:

2 alarm logic operable to notify at least one remote computer associated
3 with the system responsive to any of the plurality of data signals associated with said
4 at least one DC plant being outside said at least one boundary parameter associated
5 with said at least one DC plant.

1 15. The system of claim 10, wherein the communication logic is operable
2 to periodically request a plurality of updated data signals from the DC plant.

1 16. The system of claim 10, wherein the monitoring logic is further
2 operable to monitor at least one AC plant, and receive a plurality of data signals
3 associated with said at least one AC plant.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the storage logic is further operable to
2 store at least one boundary parameter associated with said at least one AC plant.

1 18. The system of claim 17, further comprising:

2 alarm logic operable to notify at least one remote computer associated
3 with the system responsive to any of the plurality of data signals associated with said
4 at least one AC plant being outside said at least one boundary parameter associated
5 with said at least one AC plant.

- 1 19. The system of claim 10, further comprising:
- 2 simulation logic operable to simulate a power failure at a site
- 3 associated with a DC plant.

1 20. A method for remotely monitoring a DC plant, comprising the steps of:
2 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant from
3 a data gathering unit associated with the DC plant;
4 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant
5 from the data gathering unit; and
6 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant to a
7 remote computer for display to a user.

1 21. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the DC
3 plant to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the DC
4 plant; and
5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the DC plant being outside the corresponding boundary
7 parameter.

1 22. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with a fuel monitor
3 coupled to an AC plant;
4 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel monitor;
5 and
6 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel monitor
7 to a remote computer for display to a user.

1 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel
3 monitor to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the fuel
4 monitor; and
5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the fuel monitor being outside the corresponding
7 boundary parameter.

1 24. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with an AC plant;
3 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the AC plant; and
4 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the AC plant to a
5 remote computer for display to a user.

1 25. The method of claim 24, further comprising:
2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the AC
3 plant to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the AC
4 plant; and
5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the AC plant being outside the corresponding boundary
7 parameter.

1 26. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 displaying the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant on
3 the remote computer.

1 27. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 updating the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant.

1 28. The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 simulating a power failure at a site associated with the DC plant, and
3 monitoring the DC plant for operating conditions during the power
4 failure.

1 29. A computer readable medium having a program for remotely
2 monitoring a DC plant, the program comprising the steps of:
3 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant from
4 a data gathering unit associated with the DC plant;
5 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant
6 from the data gathering unit; and
7 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant to a
8 remote computer for display to a user.

1 30. The program of claim 29, further comprising:
2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the DC
3 plant to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the DC
4 plant; and
5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the DC plant being outside the corresponding boundary
7 parameter.

1 31. The program of claim 29, further comprising:
2 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with a fuel monitor
3 coupled to an AC plant;
4 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel monitor;
5 and
6 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel monitor
7 to a remote computer for display to a user.

1 32. The program of claim 31, further comprising:

2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the fuel
3 monitor to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the fuel
4 monitor; and

5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the fuel monitor being outside the corresponding
7 boundary parameter.

1 33. The program of claim 29, further comprising:

2 requesting a plurality of data signals associated with an AC plant;

3 receiving the plurality of data signals associated with the AC plant; and

4 providing the plurality of data signals associated with the AC plant to a
5 remote computer for display to a user.

1 34. The program of claim 33, further comprising:

2 comparing each of the plurality of data signals associated with the AC
3 plant to a corresponding plurality of boundary parameters associated with the AC
4 plant; and

5 notifying the remote computer responsive to any of the plurality of
6 data signals associated with the AC plant being outside the corresponding boundary
7 parameter.

1 35. The program of claim 29, further comprising:

2 displaying the plurality of data signals associated with the DC plant on
3 the remote computer.